

What Is Claimed Is

1. An integrated biopsy/access tool for harvesting a biopsy specimen and providing access to a remote anatomical site, comprising:

5 a. a biopsy device having distal and proximal ends;

b. a cannula having distal and proximal ends, and a first functional channel extending therebetween; and

10 c. a handle means, removably coupled to at least one of the biopsy device and cannula, wherein if the handle means is separated from said biopsy device, at least a portion of the first functional channel is capable of telescoping over the biopsy device.

2. A tool according to claim 1 wherein, when:

15 a. the cannula distal end is disposed relative to the biopsy specimen or anatomical site; and,

20 b. the biopsy device is advanced within said first functional channel such that a handle distal end engages the cannula proximal end, the biopsy device distal end extends a distance beyond said cannula distal end, thereby securing a biopsy specimen.

3. The tool according to claim 1, wherein the biopsy device has an outer dimension ranging from 2 to 3 millimeters, and the cannula has an outer dimension between 3 and 4 millimeters.
- 5 4. The tool according to claim 1, further comprising a placement means for determining proper placement of at least one of the biopsy device and cannula.
5. The tool according to claim 4, wherein the handle means is further removably coupled to the placement means.
6. The tool device according to claim 4, wherein the placement device is telescopically received within a second functional channel extending through the biopsy device.
7. The tool according to claim 4, wherein the placement means comprises a trocar.
8. The tool according to claim 7, wherein the trocar has a tapered distal end.
9. The tool according to claim 8, wherein the trocar has an outer diameter between about 2 and 3 millimeters.
10. The tool according to claim 8, wherein the trocar has a channel extending therethrough.

11. The tool according to claim 4, wherein the placement means comprises a guide wire.
12. The tool according to claim 4, wherein the placement means comprises a linear scale on at least one of the biopsy device and cannula for measuring a penetration depth that the biopsy/access tool is positioned at the remote anatomical site.
13. The tool according to claim 1, wherein:
- a. the biopsy device has at least one demarcation axially spaced thereon;
 - b. when the cannula distal end is disposed relative to the biopsy specimen or anatomical site; and
 - c. when the biopsy device is advanced through the first functional channel so as to align a demarcation with the cannula proximal end;
 - i) then, the biopsy device distal end extends a predetermined distance beyond said cannula distal end, thereby securing the biopsy specimen.
14. The tool according to claim 1, wherein the handle means simultaneously couples with the distal ends of the biopsy device and cannula.

15. A method for obtaining a biopsy specimen and
accessing a remote anatomical site, comprising the
steps of:
- a. placing a biopsy device at an anatomical site;
 - 5 b. advancing a cannula over the biopsy device;
 - c. securing the biopsy specimen; and
 - d. withdrawing the biopsy device containing the biopsy
specimen from the remote anatomical site, thereby
providing access through the cannula to the remote
anatomical site.
16. The method according to claim 15, further
comprising the step of positioning a placement means
at the remote anatomical site prior to placing the
biopsy device.
17. The method according to claim 15, wherein advancing
the cannula comprises the steps of:
- a. coupling a handle means to a cannula; and
 - b. sliding the cannula coupled to the handle
telescopically over the biopsy device.
- 20 18. The method according to claim 15, wherein securing
the biopsy specimen comprises the steps of:
- a. coupling a handle means to the biopsy device;

b. advancing the biopsy device; and

c. fixing a biopsy specimen in the biopsy device with
a securing means.

19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the
5 securing means severs and retains the biopsy specimen.

20. The method according to claim 15, further
comprising introducing at least one of medicaments,
delivery cannula, tissue modification devices,
catheters, tubes, diagnostic instruments, and
pharmaceuticals and therapeutic agents.